PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Many thanks to Chris Hewitt for presiding last week; and thanks to coronavirus I attended my NZ board meeting from my home office and so was able to resume presidential duties this last week. And luckily I did, because the WAG presentation on their Community Action Plan was excellent – full of enthusiasm and energy and given the total community engagement and support of WAG I wonder whether the Rotary Club should become a member.

Rob de Vries is pleased that both the Warracknabeal and Wyndham Rotary Clubs have decided to postpone our visit till early September.

Don’t forget the two RCU upcoming events: Emmett’s this Friday @ 5.30 pm and at Rotary House for the garage sale around 10 am on Saturday.

Next week is fellowship at the Royal Mail followed by a Board meeting.

Yours in Rotary,
Tony

COMING DATES

Newcomers to Warracknabeal “Welcome Night” 20 March
Clem Quick’s 50 yrs in Rotary - Brim CC 8 April
Aussie Meeting- Ben’s Shed 20 May

APOLOGIES / GUESTS

Jean Wise
By lunchtime Tuesday
0487 159 242
or email to wbealbulletin@gmail.com

WPS Breakfast 2020

John A (collect)
Sue
Tony

District 9780 Conference March 20-22 2020 Swan Hill
CANCELLED!

The conference has unfortunately been cancelled due to the Corona virus pandemic. DG Rosanne has emailed Rotarians who had registered with more information.
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<th>DUTIES</th>
<th>Wednesday 18th March 2020</th>
<th>Wednesday 25th March 2020</th>
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<td>Venue</td>
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<td>Time</td>
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<td>Reception/Visitors</td>
<td>Fellowship meal</td>
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<td>Royal Hotel</td>
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<td>Sue Watts</td>
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<td>Chairman</td>
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<td>Invocation</td>
<td>Board meeting</td>
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<td>Ian Penny</td>
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<td>Rotaract Conference</td>
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**Inductions:** Sue Watts 15/3/2006  
**Birthdays:** John Liersch 14 March  
**Anniversaries:** -  

**Wed 11th March - REPORTS**

**Secretary (Sue)**  
Members are invited to attend a Welcome Newcomers Night in Warracknabeal on Friday 20th March 6:00-6:30, at the Community Centre. Thanks to Jean for offering to represent Rotary. Others are also welcome to attend.

**Community Service (Peter)**  
Emmett’s End of Harvest BBQ Friday 13th March 5:30pm (Thanks Tony, Peter, David and Tim)  
Rotary/Woodbine Garage Sale BBQ Saturday 14th March 10:00> 12:00 (Thanks David, Peter, John A, Bernie)

**Youth**  
Another volunteer needed for breakfast. Please contact John T. ASAP.

**Calvin** recently spoke to Stan Deans. While his health is just fair, Stan is looking forward to meeting up with old friends at Clem’s 50th year in Rotary celebration at Brim next month.
Dianne Marchment and John Butcher gave a very interesting presentation on Wednesday night about the purpose and vision of WAG - the Warracknabeal Action Group.

In years gone by this body was referred to as the Chamber of Commerce, then the Warracknabeal Promotion Committee and now WAG. Previously the focus was on promoting local businesses but now, as WAG, the purpose is to promote and develop the town and community of Warracknabeal, in every aspect. Two main aims were to involve as many groups as possible, and to be open and transparent in all discussions.

In 2018 WAG held a community meeting to brainstorm the needs of the town and ways to promote, grow and sustain the town economically, socially and physically. It was an open meeting, with attendees from many organisations - including Rotary - and interested individuals. WAG members were delighted with a turn up of about 100 people, including many organisations and even some younger residents. From the meeting 28 key projects were highlighted and a Warracknabeal Action Plan was devised. (attached here as a separate document) The Shire was deemed responsible for some projects, while others relied on local volunteer organisations and individuals. In Jan 2020 a progress meeting was held.

Progress so far includes:

- WAG President, Di Marchment, meets monthly with Shire CEO, Jessie Holmes to discuss WAG matters.
- A Grants specialist on the Shire staff is available to support anyone to access grants.
- The Information Centre now has a designated Committee.
- Responding to a lack of coffee outlets on weekends, WAG organises a coffee van every Sunday.
- A ‘Newcomers to Warracknabeal’ night has been planned for Fri 20 March. Rotarians encouraged to come & to bring any newcomers along. A ‘Welcome to Warracknabeal’ pack will be given

A successful morning was held on Saturday at the combined Rotary/Woodbine garage sale at the Rotary Shop. There was a constant flow of people trickling in and out all morning, with some great bargains to be picked up. Jean had everything under control in the sales department, and Peter coordinated the BBQ.

A total of $853 was taken, with $400.10 going to Rotary and $453 to Woodbine. (I wonder what bargain was picked up for 10c?)

A great effort by all, and as Julie commented “Robin McCullough would be looking down happy, I’m sure” Thanks to Jean, Chris G, Bernie, Julie, Peter, David, John A, Tony, Wendy, Ben and Joan for helping and Woodbine staff for helping to set up.
Rotary Shirts

Wendy has suggested that we make a transition to an official Rotary polo shirts. Although our current blue shirts are a great look it will be easier, for new Rotarians to order the official shirts through RDU, rather than us organising our own club shirts.

There are now two official Rotary polo shirt styles.

(I’d go with the one on the left (STYLE 1), as Megan already has this style.... and it has the most black-look for JL!)

A decision will most likely be made at the coming Board meeting, so contact a Board member if you have any comments.

There are several other items available- dress shirts, polar fleece, vests, long sleeved T shirts and a light weight jacket.

Check out the RDU website.